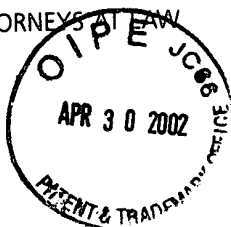




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1652
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April 30, 2002

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MAY 06 2002

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

TECH CENTER 1600/2300

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/229,173; Filed: January 13, 1999
For: **Cloned DNA Polymerases from *Thermotoga maritima* and Mutants
Thereof**
Inventor: CHATTERJEE, DEB K.
Our Ref: 0942.2800008/RWE/RCM
Art Unit: 1652

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Preliminary Amendment; and
2. One return postcard.

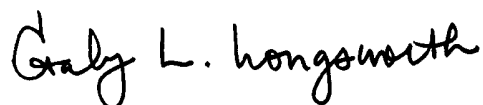
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
April 30, 2002
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Gaby L. Longworth
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 47,756

RWE/RCM/GLL/eaf
Enclosures
SKGF_DC1:9219.1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

CHATTERJEE, DEB K.

Appl. No. 09/229,173

Filed: January 13, 1999

For: **Cloned DNA Polymerases from
Thermotoga maritima and
Mutants Thereof**

Art Unit: 1652

Examiner: Hutson, R.

Atty. Docket: 0942.2800008/RWE/RCM

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Preliminary Amendment

MAY 06 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

Further to the filing of a CPA on February 19, 2002, and the Examiner interview on March 27, 2002, it is respectfully requested that the following amendment to the claims be entered. This amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) A clean version of each replacement paragraph/section/claim along with clear instructions for entry;
- (B) Starting on a separate page, appropriate remarks and arguments. 37 C.F.R. § 1.115 and MPEP 714; and
- (C) Starting on a separate page, a marked-up version entitled: "Version with markings to show changes made."

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. In the event that any extensions of time are required to prevent the abandonment of this application, such